



FAX TRANSMITTAL
MOAB DISTRICT OFFICE

11/037/088

TO: Tony Gallegos - UDOGM

FROM: Lynn Jackson - BLM

SUBJECT: Fax of letter coming to
you dealing w/ BLM EIS schedule.

NUMBER OF PAGES: 3
(Including Cover Sheet)

DATE: 11/5/96

TIME: 2:05 pm

FAX MACHINE NO.: _____

COMMENTS:



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
82 East Dogwood Avenue
Moab, Utah 84532

TAKE
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AMERICA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UTU-72499
(U-060)

M/037/088

Mr. Bob Prescott
Summo USA Corporation
P.O. Box 847
Moab, Utah 84532

NOV 5 1996

Re: Lisbon Valley EIS Schedule

Dear Mr. Prescott:

In review of the current situation regarding Summo's efforts to provide additional data and analysis for the above referenced EIS, it appears as though the schedule for finalizing the Final EIS (FEIS) has once again been pushed back. These difficulties have been primarily related to: 1) the drilling, testing and analysis of the Navajo aquifer test well, 2) re-modeling aquifer impacts and post-mining pit lake issues based on results of this test data, and 3) providing additional details on reclamation, monitoring and the waste rock management plans for the project.

By letter to you dated August 26, 1996, we had projected receiving this data by the end of September, allowing for the month of October for Woodward-Clyde to assimilate the data into the FEIS and for BLM to review. We then assumed we could print and distribute the FEIS sometime during the first week of November. Since we are just now receiving the final pieces of required information that will allow us to complete the impact analysis for this project, we have effectively lost a month of time.

This letter is to inform you of the new projected schedule for finalizing the FEIS and issuing the Record of Decision (ROD). Based on conversations with Woodward-Clyde, they anticipate receiving all final data and incorporating this data into the FEIS analysis during the week of November 4. They will then electronically transmit a copy of the FEIS for BLM review by November 8. BLM will then review the document, make necessary changes and revisions to the text and DEIS public comment responses, and will submit the FEIS back to Woodward-Clyde by November 29, 1996.

We hope to have the FEIS printed and distributed during the first week of December, 1996. Our office will transmit copies of the FEIS to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) of the FEIS in the Federal Register. With EPA's requirement that they receive the FEIS five working days prior to their weekly publication of EIS availability, which occurs on every Friday, it appears that publication of the NOA would occur on December 13, 1996.

The EPA publication date of the FEIS availability will then initiate a final 30 day public comment period, which would take us to January 10, 1997. At that point we would anticipate a one to two week period to review any final public comment, make any necessary

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adjustments to our final decision, and issue the ROD. The availability of the ROD, and a brief summation of BLM's decision must also be published in the Federal Register by BLM. The Federal Register will publish notification of the ROD 3 days after receipt from our office.

Based on these projected timeframes to complete all necessary tasks associated with this EIS effort, it appears that final BLM action on Summo's Proposed Plan of Operation will not occur until near the end of January 1997.

We have appreciated your patience and willingness to provide us with the data necessary to allow us to make a sound decision regarding Summo's proposed mining operation. We do not anticipate further delays at this time, and look forward to working with you and Summo to finalizing this effort. Please contact Lynn Jackson at (801) 259-6111 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Katherine Kitchell

District Manager

cc:

Pat Gochnour, Gochnour and Associates

Bob Turri, San Juan County

Tony Gallegos, State of Utah, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

Dennis Fredricks, State of Utah, Division of Water Quality

Scott Mernitz, Woodward-Clyde Consultants

ALJackson:alj:11/1/96